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disease carriers pass Quarantine. The
possibility that under the existing
laws and regulations any of these
unfortunates would escape detection
by an alert and painstaking medical
examiner is too remote to arouse the
slightest disquiet.

If necessary, this country can at
any time declare a quarantine against
any port or any nation in the world.
It may give notice that passengers
from this or that country will not be
permitted to land here, and that ves-
sels bringing them into port will be
held up for a week or a month before
being permitted to discharge cargo.
With such a notice served on steam-
ship owners they would be very care-
ful about the passengers they brought
into the country.

The United States has to-day ample
legal authority to protect the health
of its citizens against disease borne
by immigrants. No new legislation is
needed to arm it for this purpose.
Neither Mr. CAMINETTI nor anybody
else need worry about the adequacy
of the statutes. If Mr. CAMINETTI
will make the administration of his
bureau square with the excellent pro-
visions of the law, and the health
authorities do their part as well, we
shall be in no danger of disease from
abroad.

Senator Harding's Tariff Views.
Neither the astonishment of some
newspapers nor the shock of some
veteran legislators over Senator Har-
ding's objections to railroading an
out of date tariff measure back into
use can be very genuine. Senator
HARDING is an American tariff ad-
vocate of deep conviction and devoted
allegiance. Because he is exactly that
sort of true blue follower of the
American tariff and because he is a
man of head and clear perception
he does not want a tariff act
that may have been suitable forty or
thirty or twenty years ago, but that
might not fit at all the United States
of to-day.

Any sound and successful tariff of
the past was based on the actual con-
ditions, domestic and foreign, of its
time. Any sound and successful tariff
of the present must be based on the
conditions of this age and generation.
A measure that could supply all the
country's needs at certain times and
under certain conditions might at a
later date, when the country could
not supply all its needs, become a
dangerous freak. A scheme that
worked very advantageously for us
as a whole when our export trade
was only 2 or 3 per cent. of our do-
mestic trade might, when our export
business was 20 or 30 per cent. of our
domestic business, become a calamity
even to those whom that tariff was
intended to benefit.

Our Government never yet has
made a good and workable tariff
without knowing what it was doing
in all the details and all the possi-
bilities. What Senator HARDING
wants is that the Government shall
make the next tariff on precisely the
same principles. Otherwise it may
not be worth a bill of beans. It may
even become exploding dynamite un-
der the American home market,
which depends first of all upon the
purchasing power of American in-
dustries, selling at home or abroad,
and of American wage earners.

Why Not a Half Nickel?
The House, Committee on Coinage
has reported favorably the Senate
bill that provides for a two cent
piece. The best thing about the pro-
posed new coin is that it will bear a
likeness of THEODORE ROOSEVELT. The
"genuine need" which the committee
says exists for a coin of that denomi-
nation is not obvious. A two cent
piece will do nothing which cannot be
done with two copper cents.

A two and one-half cent piece would
fill a number of wants. Put with a
dime it would make what some old
fashioned Americans refer to, at least
in reckoning, as a "shilling" or "one
bit." That the York shilling is not
an attractive price is evident from
the many "two for a quarter" arti-
cles that are sold in the stores.

If a two and a half cent piece or
half nickel existed trifles worth less
than a cent could be sold for half a
cent, the purchaser tendering three
cents and receiving one of the new
coins in change. In the same way an
article worth more than five cents
and less than ten cents could be sold
at seven and a half cents and con-
veniently paid for.

When the Federal Government puts
a 10 per cent. luxury or stamp tax on
an article which costs 25 cents there
is no present way of paying exactly
the tax on that article. The taxed
quarter cent at the motion picture
show costs 28 cents, whereas it should
cost 27½ cents. The half nickel
would make exactness possible in
cases like this. A two cent piece
would not help.

Coloration and Crime.
It has been a tradition of the the-
atre for many years that evildoers
must always be of the brunette type.
Mephistopheles, archpriest and oldest
of existing devils among men, always
has black hair and is almost invari-
ably attired in scarlet. In church
symbolism these colors typify sorrow
and charity or sacrifice, but on the
stage they are so closely associated
with evil that the adventures of
melodrama used always to wear a
clinging black gown and red silk
stockings.

The only variant to the associa-
tion of red and feminine vampirism
is in the case of an opera villainess.
There a peasant woman may wear
red cotton stockings and be regarded
as a perfectly proper member of bu-
colic society. How strongly the as-
sociation between dark tones and
social misbehavior is implanted in
the theatrical consciousness was well il-
lustrated by that highly moral song
MAURICE CHESTERTON used to sing about

drinking "dentures with the wicked
upper classes." Even black coffee
could not escape the implication of
evil associated with its hue.

But of late there has been a grow-
ing disposition among philosophers
and other students of human beings
and human nature to question this
ancient habit of attributing evil pre-
dominantly to the brunette type. The
blonde, instead of symbolizing inno-
cence, is now held up as an agent of
evil. The comparison NIETZSCHE has
been popularly supposed to have made
but did not make between his super-
man and the "great blond beast" may
have had something to do with this
changing viewpoint about coloration
and morals, for many curious ideas
emanated from German philosophers
before 1914. Whatever the cause the
brunette type no longer is held solely
responsible for evil.

In Chicago only the other day a
learned authority on the human eye
asserted that gazing on blondes was
responsible for many of man's troubles
in that city. Testimony as to the
blond type of men not being wholly
free of evil ways is adduced by the
chief charity officer of Leeds, Eng-
land, who says "blue eyed men make
the worst husbands." As no pro-
poundment of a social service worker
can be authoritative nowadays with-
out statistics to support it, he added
that 99 per cent. of the cases of wife
desertion with which he has dealt
have had to do with blue eyed men.
Moved by this profound observation
an English poet penned a warning
to all lovers of men of this type,
pointing out that

"Those eyes of the deepest cerulean
hue
Mean black eyes for you."

When poets begin to take up the
defence we may feel that the atmos-
phere of hell which has hung over
brunettes for so long is about to van-
ish. Golden locks and blue frocks
may yet come to take the place of
black and red as symbols of wicked-
ness.

Germany's Improved Position.
It is not surprising that the sur-
vey of economic conditions in Ger-
many, given in more detail in an-
other column of this newspaper, re-
veals an amazing resiliency in Ger-
man industry. Nor is it any wonder
that the real conditions of Germany's
financial arrangements are not so bad
as the foreign exchange market and
the Reichsbank note issue would lead
us to believe.

The Germans hold second place to
no one in their knowledge of inter-
national money markets and how to
manipulate them to the advantage of
the Fatherland. When Germany lost
the war she seemed to believe that
the Allies would square accounts by
declaring a peace without heavy finan-
cial penalties. But in reality Ger-
many knew that she would have to
pay the greatest indemnity in his-
tory if she only repaired the dam-
aged areas, a thing which she agreed
ought to be done at her expense.

For this reason the greatest bank-
ers and industrial capitalists got to-
gether almost before the cannons had
ceased firing to assemble information
and map out plans for meeting the
burden they knew must fall upon
them. It was simply history repeat-
ing itself. The victors were not hasty
about getting down to the business
of production and reconstruction be-
cause they expected to be relieved
of this necessity by the penalties
imposed on the losers. But for the
losers, who knew they could not escape
penalties, there was every incentive
to discard every thought except that
of increasing their production and
rehabilitating their position in for-
eign markets.

The fixing of the indemnity and
the payment of it is nothing other
than a huge financial transaction in
which all parties concerned want to
utilize every available advantage. The
worth of a large indemnity fixed upon
a weak and impotent nation would
not be nearly so great as that of a
small indemnity to be paid by a na-
tion alive to its circumstances and
determined to seize every advantage
to minimize the size of the assess-
ment, but in the end determined to
gird up its loins and never cease
working until the last mark had been
paid.

D'Annunzio's Future.
With a bodyguard of four of his
faithful Arditi D'ANNUNZIO left Fiume
Tuesday, according to a message from
that city. He abandoned the flight by
air which he had declared he would
make—the change to earth and an
automobile is a poet's license. Fiume
will know him no more as its com-
mander; and it closed its doors and
gathered at its council hall in a great
civic demonstration as an expression
of regret at his departure.

This brings to an end one of the ro-
mantic and interesting episodes which
grew out of the war and a striking
piece in the career of an amazing
personality. The building of a mediae-
val Italian republic at the head of
the Adriatic with himself as chief,
surrounded by dependents and sup-
ported by a government of the people
made a strong appeal to his imagi-
nation. His plan may have had its
inception in his own vanity and ego-
ism, but at the same time the desire
to save Fiume from what he con-
sidered Italy's enemies—this which in
reality was what he most sought—
was consonant with his ideas of Ital-
ian patriotism. He refused to sup-
plant the Irredentist ideals of war
time with those of peace. His views
of a greater Italy were the views of
GARIBOLDI, but he had not GARIBOLDI's
self-abnegation nor his pas-
sion to await the working of des-
tiny.

As a result D'ANNUNZIO failed to
appreciate the dangerous diplomatic
and military complications in which
he was involving his country. He
was unyielding because he could not
consider the Rapallo treaty a sacred
obligation. Italy and the Italian Gov-
ernment, however, did and as a mat-
ter of honor they enforced it and
brought the D'Annunzio régime to an
end.

Why Italy endured D'ANNUNZIO's
pretensions so long has often been a
matter of speculation outside the
country itself. The great fact of the
service he rendered is overlooked. It
was that service which made him a
hero and held him in the high re-
gard of young Italy. When Italy's
decision still hung in the balance
D'ANNUNZIO, a man of middle age,
a student, a poet, and by many called
a decadent, appeared at Rome in de-
fence of the allied cause. The Gov-
ernment, as represented by SALAN-
DELLA and SONNINO, had aligned Italy
with France and Great Britain; but at
the same time German intrigues were
at their height, and the defeatists were
in the field against intervention, led
by a master Italian politician. D'AN-
NUNZIO, with the background of the
Forum and the monuments of ancient
Rome, poured into words all that was
inspiring, noble and patriotic in the
thoughts of the nation. The German
plots and the keen calculations of the
defeatists disappeared; the opposi-
tion to the war policy "melted be-
fore the fierce burst of Roman elo-
quence and the die was cast."

That D'ANNUNZIO's work does not
end with the termination of his com-
mand at Fiume must be the wish of a
world which can understand his
patriotism and his literary genius.
Pope Leo XIII, himself a poet and
an able writer of classical prose,
refused to have D'ANNUNZIO's books
placed on the index of prohibited
works. To the critics he replied that
in D'ANNUNZIO's works there survived
the purity of the Italian language and
the best of the world literature. One
who scarcely can be considered D'AN-
NUNZIO's friend, in counselling him to
be a modern Tasso and write the
Italian epic of the war, says: "Then
the world will remember how he rose
on the eagle's wings in the war and
forgot how the beacon's light was
quenched in smoke in the murky days
of peace." Fiume was merely a phase
in a poet's life; the greatest working
days of his career may lie before him.

One Chance in a Million.
One person in about 700 of this
country's population is a telegraph
operator. So when an assistant city
treasurer in Philadelphia was im-
prisoned in a municipal vault the
walls of which were impervious to
the voice but not to the sound of a
blow the chances were 700 to 1 that
the prisoner would not be able to
send an intelligible signal to the room
outside. The long shot won, for the
man in the vault was an operator.

The only man in the room outside
was a watchman. The chances were
700 to 1 that he was not a telegraph
operator; but he happened to be and
the man trapped in the vault was able
to tell him, by pounding out Morse
signals with a board, where he could
find a man who knew the combina-
tion of the lock. So the prisoner
was liberated.

The odds against the presence, in
an office having nothing to do with
telegraphy, of two men who, although
they were not telegraphers by occupa-
tion, could send and read the code,
were tremendous. Even on the basis
of one operator in 700 persons, the
chances against such a coincidence
were as 490,000 is to 1. A gambler,
calculating the odds on this case,
would very likely arrive at a fatter
price; at least 1,000,000 to 1. Flipp-
ing a coin twenty times and having
it come heads up each time would be
scarcely more unlikely.

There will be those who will say
that chance is not the factor in such
happenings as the adventure of the
man in the vault; and they will point
to the case of HARRY HAWKER. Mil-
lions of people believed that he would
be picked up at sea, even when it was
evident that the odds against a ship
seeing him were incalculably great.

BOSS MURPHY says he'll retire when
his head reaches his knees. But he
has not gone through the ceremony of
throwing away his razor.

The Connecticut Woman Suffrage
Association after fifty-one years of ex-
istence has been the object of its ambi-
tion attained and has dissolved. "Of
the original members—among whom
were such great leaders as SARAH B.
ANTHONY, HARRIET BECHER STOWE and
JULIA WARD HOWE—only one, Miss
FRANCES ELLEN BURN, survives. She
was the secretary of the society from
its formation until 1910. Few torch-
bearers of reform have had an experi-
ence as gratifying as that of Miss
BURN, who has seen the triumph of a
cause which excited more of ridicule
than of serious opposition when she
first became interested in it. She is
due to be congratulated on the victory she
did much to bring about.

Figuring Franklins.
When old Ben walked down Chestnut
street,
Clad soberly in raiment meet—
Gray garments or tobacco brown—
His pace sedate, his eyes cast down,
He 'roused no thrill in Quaker town.

No sword was girded at his side;
Nor lofty port nor kingly stride
Drew notice from his fellow city
Nor stirred the hot polio's wit
To rend the welkin into bits.

He wore no medal on his coat,
He struck no eloquent note,
He couldn't sound a clarion call
To captivate or to enthrall—
In short, he threw no front at all.

Yet nowadays throughout the land
They're booming Ben to beat the band.
Without press agency or puff
Why is it we can't say enough?
Why, just because he was the stuff.

In other words, it doesn't take
The drum and trumpet a man to make
The world well weighs you small or
great;
And, if you pass, may celebrate
Your birthday for a week—some date.
MAURICE MORRIS.

Cuba's Friends Reassured.
Ex-Speaker Ferrara Denies the Possibility of Revolution.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: In order
to reassure your readers who have rela-
tions in Cuba I take the liberty of ad-
dressing you, hoping that you will make
public the statement that there is abso-
lutely no possibility, not even the re-
mote idea, of a revolution among the
colored people of that island.

Moreover, the colored element does
not constitute the majority, it being only
a fourth of the population, according to
the last census taken by the United
States officials. ORESTES FERRARA,
Professor of the National University
of Havana and ex-Speaker of the
House of Representatives.
New York, January 19.

Mr. Chesterton Corrected.
Credit He Gave Artemus Ward Claimed for Josh Billings.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: Josh Bill-
ings, and not Artemus Ward, said that
the trouble with educated people was
not that they knew so many things but
that they knew so many things that
they were not so.

Mr. Chesterton has probably not heard
of Josh Billings, but I have seen the
same mistake made in attributing this
saying to Artemus Ward by American
writers who should have known better.
JAY P. DEE.
New York, January 19.

Miss Menges, Violinist, Pleases.
Miss Isidore Menges, an English vi-
olinist, brought here in 1916 by Miss
Maud Allen, the dancer, and not heard
in the course of the last two seasons,
gave a recital yesterday afternoon in
Aeolian Hall. The most important num-
ber on the list was the D major sonata
of Handel. She played also an unac-
companied prelude and fugue by Bach
and several shorter pieces, including two
of Mr. Krumpholtz's "Lieders." Miss
Menges has made progress in her
art. When she first played here she
exhibited more temperament than
discretion. Her art then was aggres-
sive, bold and unfinanced. Yesterday
she demonstrated that she had begun to
acquire self-control and to play with
finish where roughness formerly would
have been found. Her tone had beauty,
though not great sonority, and her in-
terpretation was generally good. Her bowing
retained its former dash and elasticity
but her style showed an approach to
ward smoothness and poise which it for-
merly lacked.

Chicago Opera Next Week.
Operas to be sung by the Chicago
company at the Manhattan Opera House
next week, the first of the six weeks of
the season's engagement, will be as fol-
lows: Monday, "Norma," with
Miss Rosa Raisa, Miss Gabriella Ben-
santi, Forrest Lamont and Virgilio La-
salle; Tuesday, "Mamma Anna," with
Miss Rosa Raisa and Mr. Lasalle; Wednes-
day, "Jacqueline" (New York premiere),
with Miss Yvonne Gall and Edward
Johnson; Thursday, "Jewels of the Ma-
donna," with Miss Yvonne Gall and Ed-
ward Johnson; Friday, "Carmen," with
Misses Garden and Florence
Macbeth and Mr. Muratore, inci-

Arrives with Works of Old Masters.
Holger Perlov, art dealer of Copen-
hagen, arrived yesterday on board the
Scandinavian-American liner Frederik
VIII, with ten paintings, two pieces of
antique needlework, a Dutch silver mug
more than 200 years old, old vases and
other antiques which he values at
about \$200,000. The collection formerly
was owned by a Danish nobleman and
not, as is reported here, a member of
the royal family of Denmark. Mr. Perlov
said it was taken to the Appraisers'
Stores, where the amount of duty to be
paid on the collection was being deter-
mined. He said that the collection was
no duty on the paintings that are more
than 100 years old. Among these, ac-
cording to the art dealer, are a portrait
by Hans Holbein the Younger, his mother,
dated 1585; "The King's Adoration," by
David Teniers, 1638; "The Church," by
Martin Schaffner, 1528, and a painting
by Jan Both, dated 1610.

The Sun God.
From the Seattle Post-Intelligencer.
A ball of fire shows dimly through the
fog
As he, the Sun God, goes
To other winter lands; to where again,
Defeated by his foes,
He drives his carriage on in endless
flight.

Afraid of night and cold,
His long enemies he fears to fight,
Though he is great and bold.

As old as time he is—yet never old.
Were that a human trait
Each man, at dawn, would scorn the
sifted dark;
Alone, each man would be forever
great.

Omar's Mosque.
The Beautiful Structure on the Site
of Solomon's Temple.

To THE NEW YORK HERALD: It was
my good fortune to be in Jerusalem for
several days last June, and in that city
full of associations there is perhaps no
spot that means so much to the three
great religions which have influenced our
Western civilization as the splinter of
rock that caps the hill where Solomon
built his Temple. Here is the Dome of
the Rock.

As a matter of fact, the Mohammedan
Mosque of Omar, which stands on the
outcropping of the city overlooking the Valley
of Kedron and Abraham's tomb and look-
ing across to the Mount of Olives. The
walls outside are encrusted with richly
colored tiles and the terrace-like plat-
form on which it stands is flanked with
ornamental arches. There are many for-
mal cypresses near the mosque; in fact,
you are continually reminded of a
Maxfield Parrish picture come to life.

The interior of the mosque is as strik-
ing as the outside. The roof and dome
are supported by a colonnade of white
columns. On the floor are rich, thick Oriental
carpets. There is an elaborate grillwork
screen about the rock proper, through
the openings of which the bare gray
stone can be seen.

One afternoon when I was in the
mosque enclosure 3:30 came. That is
one of the hours when every good Mo-
hammedan latens for the call to prayer.
As the city clocks struck the half-hour
muezzins mounted the minarets—as I re-
member, there are four—about the for-
mer temple enclosure and in fine rich
sonorous voices sang out the formula
beginning with the word "Allah." If I
confess to something of a thrill you can